

# Crystal structures of [Cu<sub>2</sub>(2,2'-bipyridine-N,N')<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(μ<sub>2</sub>-OH)<sub>2</sub>](barbiturate)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and [Cu(2,2'-bipyridine-N,N')(H<sub>2</sub>O)(barbiturate-O)Cl]·2H<sub>2</sub>O

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## Abstract

Two mixed-ligand Cu(II) complexes [Cu<sub>2</sub>(Bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>](Hba)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (**1**) and [Cu(Bipy)(H<sub>2</sub>O)(Hba)Cl]·2H<sub>2</sub>O (**2**) (Bipy = 2,2'-bipyridine and Hba<sup>−</sup> = barbiturate anion) were synthesized and structurally characterized by single crystal X-ray diffraction. In **1**, structural data revealed distorted square-pyramidal geometry for each of two crystallographic independent copper(II) atom with the basal plane formed by two nitrogen atoms of the 2,2'-bipyridine ligand and two oxygen atoms of bridging hydroxo groups. The apical positions are filled by the oxygen atoms from a water molecule. In **2**, the Cu atom is also in distorted square pyramidal geometry, where the equatorial sites are occupied by two N atoms of one Bipy ligand, one O atom of the barbiturate ion and one chloride ion and the apical position by one aqua ligand. Numerous intermolecular hydrogen bonds O–H···O, N–H···O, C–H···O in the structures **1–2** and in addition O–H···Cl, C–H···Cl in the structure **2** form the 3D networks. Topological analysis showed that these H-bonded networks are new. An additional factor that plays a role in the crystal packing of the discussed complexes is the π–π stacking interaction between the aromatic rings of Hba<sup>−</sup> and Bipy forming infinite chains –Hba–Bipy–Bipy–Hba–. The spectroscopic and thermal properties of compounds were analyzed.

**Keywords:** copper(II); barbituric acid; 2,2'-bipyridine; X-ray diffraction; thermal stability

## 1. Introduction

Barbituric acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{ba}$ ) and their derivatives are important groups of sedative/hypnotic drugs. The non-covalent interactions, such as hydrogen bonding and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking, are of great importance in the chemistry of barbiturate compounds. Barbiturate ligands have produced a variety of metal-organic frameworks with diverse topologies and interesting properties [1]. However, the crystal structure of the barbiturate complexes with metal ions has been the subject of only few reports [2-12]. Another well-known ligand in supramolecular chemistry is 2,2'-bipyridine (Bipy). Bipy used as auxiliary ligand is excellent candidate for the construction of novel mixed-ligand complexes, since it can form strong bonds with metal ions, and act as a hydrogen bond donor and acceptor, and the pyridine rings can interact to each other or other molecules with  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions [13].

Copper is part of redox-active metalloenzymes and is important for various cellular functions of the body [14]. It is expected that Cu(II) ion also will affect the medical activity of barbituric acid and its derivatives [2]. Therefore, data on the structure and properties of barbiturate copper(II) complexes may be useful for a better understanding of the copper effect on the activity of drugs. The principle interest of the present study is to investigate the solid-state structure of mixed-ligand Cu(II) complexes containing barbiturate anion, 2,2'-bipyridine, chloride ion, coordinated and uncoordinated water molecules. We describe here the synthesis and structures of two new mixed-ligand complexes,  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{Bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{OH})_2](\text{Hba})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (**1**) and  $[\text{Cu}(\text{Bipy})(\text{H}_2\text{O})(\text{Hba})\text{Cl}] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (**2**), where,  $\text{Hba}^-$  = barbiturate anion. If in compound **1** the  $\text{Hba}^-$  ion is in the outer sphere, then in **2** it is directly connected with the copper(II) ion. Note that the hydroxo-bridged planar  $[\text{Cu}_2(\mu_2\text{-OH})_2]$  core is an important structural unit to build numerous tri-, tetra- and hexa-nuclear Cu(II) complexes with interesting structures, magnetic properties [15-17] and biological activity [18].

## 2. Experimental section

### 2.1. Reagents and synthesis

2,2'-bipyridine (CAS number: 366-18-7) and barbituric acid (CAS number: 67-52-7) with a purity of  $\geq 98\%$  were commercially available from Sigma-Aldrich.  $\text{CuCO}_3$ ,  $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and NaOH were obtained as a reagent analytical grade (Acros) and they were used without additional purification also.

A mixture of copper(II) carbonate (0.048 g, 0.39 mmol), barbituric acid (0.10 g, 0.78 mmol) and 2,2'-bipyridine (0.122 g, 0.78 mmol) was suspended in 10 ml of water and heated at 90 °C for 2 h. The resultant dark emerald solution (4 ml, pH 5) was allowed to stand open to the air at

room temperature for one day to yield large blue block-shaped crystals of **1**, which were filtered off and dried in air to a constant mass. The yield was 44% (0.080 g) based on  $\text{CuCO}_3$ . A single crystal for the X-ray diffraction analysis was taken directly from the total mass of the product. Upon further evaporation of the filtrate, precipitation of the green powder was observed. The elemental analysis for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{32}\text{Cu}_2\text{N}_8\text{O}_{12}$  (**1**): Calc.: C, 42.1%; H, 4.03%; N, 14.0%. Found: C, 41.7%; H, 4.17%; N, 13.7%. A mixture of barbituric acid (0.10 g, 0.78 mmol) NaOH (0.31 g, 0.78 mmol) and  $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.066 g, 0.39 mmol) was kept at 90 °C for 15 min in a water bath and, then, a solid 2,2'-bipyridine (0.122 g, 0.78 mmol) was added to the resulting solution. The resultant deep emerald solution (4 ml, pH 5) was allowed to stand open to the air at room temperature for several days to yield dark green rectangular crystals of **2**, which were filtered off and dried in air to a constant mass. The yield was 86% (0.147 g) based on  $\text{CuCl}_2$ . A single crystal for the X-ray diffraction analysis was taken directly from the total mass of the product. The elemental analysis for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClCuN}_4\text{O}_6$  (**2**): Calc.: C, 38.5%; H, 3.93%; N, 12.8%. Found: C, 38.0%; H, 4.12%; N, 12.5%.

The d–d spectra of aqueous solutions exhibit a broad and featureless band centered at *ca.* 620 nm for **1** and 700 nm for **2**, which are consistent with the presence of a Cu(II) chromophore with distorted square–pyramidal geometry [19]. This band is assigned to  $^2\text{E}_g \rightarrow ^2\text{T}_{2g}$  transition of Cu(II) ( $d^9$ ).

## 2.2. X-ray diffraction analysis

The intensity patterns were collected from single crystals (**1**) and (**2**) at 100 K using a D8 Venture X-ray single crystal diffractometer (Bruker AXS) equipped with a CCD-detector, graphite monochromator and a Mo  $\text{K}\alpha$  radiation source. The absorption corrections were applied using the SADABS program. The structures were solved by direct methods using package SHELXS and refined in the anisotropic approach for non-hydrogen atoms using the SHELXL program [20]. All hydrogen atoms were found *via* Fourier difference maps. Further, the hydrogen atoms were linked with C, N atoms in the  $\text{Hba}^-$  ions, Bipy molecules, were positioned geometrically as riding on their parent atoms with  $d(\text{C–H}) = 0.93\text{--}0.98 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $d(\text{N–H}) = 0.86\text{--}0.89 \text{ \AA}$  depending on geometry and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C, N})$ . All hydrogen atoms of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules and  $\text{OH}^-$  ions were refined with bond length restraint  $d(\text{O–H}) = 0.9 \text{ \AA}$  and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{O})$ . The structure test for the presence of missing symmetry elements and possible voids was produced using the PLATON program [21]. The DIAMOND program was used for crystal structure plotting [22].

Powder X-ray diffraction data of **1** and **2** were obtained using a D8 ADVANCE diffractometer (Bruker) equipped with a VANTEC detector with a Ni filter. The measurements

were made using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation. The structural parameters defined by a single crystal analysis were used as base in the powder pattern Rietveld refinement. The refinement was produced using the TOPAS 4.2 program [23]. Low *R*-factor and good refinement results (Table 1S, Fig. 1S) indicate the phase purity of the powder samples **1** and **2**.

### 2.3. Physical measurements

TGA was carried out on the simultaneous SDT-Q600 thermal analyzer (TA Instruments, USA) under the dynamic air atmosphere (50 ml/min flow rate) within 25–400 °C at the scan rate of 10 °C/min. The qualitative composition of the evolved gases was determined by FT-IR spectrometer Nicolet380 (Thermo Scientific, USA) combined with a thermal analyzer and with the TGA/FT-IR interface (attachment for the gas phase analysis). This set up allows simultaneous accumulation of the DTA/TG data and the released gas composition. The compound weight was 11.173 mg for **1** and 8.812 mg for **2**. Platinum crucibles with perforated lids were used as the containers. The IR absorption spectra of the compounds inserted into the KBr tablets were recorded over the range of 400–4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> at room temperature on an FT-IR spectrometer Nicolet 6700 (Thermo Scientific, USA, SFU CEJU). UV-Vis spectra were recorded on an Evolution 300 spectrophotometer (Thermo Scientific, UK). The chemical analysis was carried out with an HCNS-0 EA 1112 Flash Elemental Analyser (Perkin-Elmer, England).

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1. Crystal structures of (**1**)

The unit cell of **1** corresponds to triclinic symmetry. Space group *P*-1 was determined from the statistical analysis of reflection intensities. The main crystal data are enumerated in Table 1. The asymmetric unit contains two Cu<sup>2+</sup> ions, two hydroxo bridging groups, two Bipy molecules, two Hba<sup>-</sup> ions and three H<sub>2</sub>O molecules (Fig. 1a). Each Cu<sup>2+</sup> ion is coordinated by Bipy molecule through two N atoms (*d*(Cu–N) = 2.0023(1) – 2.0100 (1) Å), two OH<sup>-</sup> ions (*d*(Cu–O<sub>OH</sub>) = 1.9272 (1) – 1.9441 (1) Å) and one H<sub>2</sub>O forming distorted square pyramid. The Cu–O<sub>Hba</sub> distances (2.9278(2) – 3.0725 (3) Å) are long and can be considered as short contacts [24]. The equatorial bonds at each Cu(II) centre comprise two bridging hydroxo oxygen atoms and Bipy nitrogen atoms, generating the N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> basal planes. The pair of the copper centers forms a four cornered planar Cu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> core where the two Bipy molecules are *trans* oriented with respect to the Cu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> core forming five-membered chelate rings with Cu(II). The axial position is occupied by the coordinated water molecule. The axial Cu–O<sub>w</sub> distances (2.356 (2) and 2.4665 (2) Å) are quite longer than equatorial ones (*d*(Cu–O) = 1.9272 (1) – 1.9441 (1) Å) indicating stronger Cu–O–Cu interaction. The elongation of the apical bond length in complex **1** is of comparable

magnitude to that observed in the previously reported complexes [16, 17]. The Cu1...Cu2 distance 2.8644 (5) Å, the angles Cu1–O1w–Cu2 (95.10 (9)°) and Cu1–O2w–Cu2 (95.99 (9)°) are similar to those in compounds [Cu<sub>2</sub>(Bipy)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>(HPO<sub>4</sub>)(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·4H<sub>2</sub>O [16] and [Cu<sub>2</sub>(Bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)(OH)<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)]·4H<sub>2</sub>O [17]. The main bond lengths and valence angles of Hba<sup>−</sup> [2-12, 25, 26] and Bipy (Table 2S) practically coincide with those found earlier in other barbiturate [2-12, 25, 26] and 2,2'-bipyridyl [16, 17, 27-30] compounds. The N–C–N torsion angles are 2.2(3)° and −0.4(4)°. The Bipy molecules are planar, the standard deviation of atoms from corresponding planes are 0.036 Å for both of them. The N–Cu–N angles are 80.86(9)° and 80.73(9)° for two crystallographically unique Cu(II) centres, and fall within the range found for similarly coordinated bis-μ<sub>2</sub>-hydroxo-Cu(II) dimers containing Bipy [16, 17].

Sixteen intermolecular hydrogen bonds O–H...O, N–H...O and C–H...O in the structure (Table 2) form a 3D network with well-developed 2D network depicted in Fig. 2a. There are several supramolecular motifs R<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>(8), R<sub>3</sub><sup>2</sup>(8), R<sub>4</sub><sup>3</sup>(10), R<sub>3</sub><sup>3</sup>(14) and R<sub>5</sub><sup>4</sup>(14) with small cycles can be marked in this 2D layer. Each of μ<sub>2</sub>-hydroxo group forms an intermolecular hydrogen bond to the uncoordinated Hba<sup>−</sup> ion of C type (Fig. 2S) forming the infinite chain along *a*-axis based on the C<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>(10) pattern. The Hba<sup>−</sup> ions joint together forming chains along *a*-axis, and they are connected with [Cu<sub>2</sub>(Bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> cations through C–H...O hydrogen bonds, forming this 2D layer in *ac*-plane. These layers are linked with each other through O–H...O bonds along *b*-axis, and the O4w atoms of water molecules are involved in them. As in **1**, in four complexes of general formula [M(bpy)(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>4</sub>](Hba)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (where M = Co<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, and bpy = 4,4'-bipyridine) Hba<sup>−</sup> ions are in the outer sphere and they are bound by hydrogen bonds to the molecules of water and bpy [26]. Topological analysis of the net by ToposPro program [31], using simplification and excluding all 0-, 1- and 2-coordinated nodes revealed that this is a 6-nodal (3-c)(3-c)(3-c)(6-c)(6-c)(7-c) net with point symbol (3.4<sup>3</sup>.5<sup>5</sup>.6<sup>9</sup>.7.8<sup>2</sup>)(<sup>2</sup>.4<sup>4</sup>.5<sup>4</sup>.6<sup>5</sup>)(4.6<sup>2</sup>)(4<sup>3</sup>.5<sup>5</sup>.6<sup>6</sup>.8)(5.6<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> which is new. Further analysis of interactions in (**1**) reveals π–π interactions between Bipy, Hba<sup>−</sup> rings which form infinite chain ...–Hba–Bipy–Bipy–Hba–... along *b*-axis (Table 3S, Fig. 3Sa).

### 3.2. Crystal structures of **2**

The unit cell of **2** also corresponds to monoclinic symmetry. The main crystal data are shown in Table 1. The asymmetric unit cell contains one Cu<sup>2+</sup> ion, one Bipy molecule, one Hba<sup>−</sup> ion, one Cl<sup>−</sup> ion and three water molecules (Fig. 1b). Square-pyramidal geometry about each copper atom is provided by two nitrogen donor atoms (d(Cu–N) = 2.008(1)–2.027(1) Å) from the Bipy ligand, one oxygen atom from Hba<sup>−</sup> ion (d(Cu–O<sub>Hba</sub>) = 1.952(1)Å) and Cl<sup>−</sup> ion (d(Cu–Cl) = 2.2763(6) Å), which form the N<sub>2</sub>OCl basal plane, and axially by an oxygen atom from coordinated H<sub>2</sub>O

molecule ( $d(\text{Cu}-\text{O1w}) = 2.222(1) \text{ \AA}$ ). As in **1**, the axial Cu–O1w distance is quite longer than equatorial Cu–O<sub>Hba</sub> distance. The elongation of the apical bond length in complex **2** is of comparable magnitude to that observed in the previously reported complexes Cu(II) [27–30]. Elongation of the Cu–OH<sub>2</sub> bond leads to the formation of a distorted square pyramidal coordination geometry. In a single structurally characterized complex  $[\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3(\text{Hba})_2]$  [2], containing Cu(II) and coordinated Hba<sup>−</sup> ligand, the Cu(II) ion is in the distorted square-pyramidal geometry and the bond length Cu–O<sub>Hba</sub> (1.952(1) Å) has the same value as in **2**. As in **1**, the main bond lengths and valence angles of Hba<sup>−</sup> and Bipy in **2** practically coincide with those found earlier in other related compounds [13]. All the C–O distances in **1** and **2** (Table 2S) are larger than those in free H<sub>2</sub>ba [32], indicating the charge delocalization in the Hba<sup>−</sup> ion, as in the case of other barbiturate complexes [2–12]. The higher  $d(\text{O3B}-\text{C6B}) = 1.2834(17) \text{ \AA}$  value as compared with the smaller  $d(\text{O1B}-\text{C2B}) = 1.2393(18) \text{ \AA}$  and  $d(\text{O2B}-\text{C4B}) = 1.2567(19) \text{ \AA}$  values can be explained by the coordination of the ligand Hba<sup>−</sup> to copper(II) *via* an O3B atom. The Bipy molecules are planar, the standard deviation of atoms from corresponding planes are 0.030 Å. The N–C–C–N torsion angle in Bipy is 5.7(2)°, and the N–Cu–N angle is 80.67(5)°. Ten intermolecular hydrogen bonds O–H⋯O, N–H⋯O, O–H⋯Cl, C–H⋯O and C–H⋯Cl in the structure (Table 2) form a 3D network. One 2D net can be marked in the plane based on *c* and *a*–*b* vectors (Fig. 2b) and the shortest ring motifs in them are R<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>(8), R<sub>3</sub><sup>2</sup>(8), R<sub>3</sub><sup>2</sup>(10) and R<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>(12). Topological analysis of (**2**) using ToposPro program [31] showed that this 3D net is a 3-nodal (3-c)(3-c)(11-c) net with the point symbol (3.4<sup>2</sup>)(3<sup>2</sup>.4)(3<sup>6</sup>.4<sup>11</sup>.5<sup>18</sup>.6<sup>14</sup>.7<sup>5</sup>.8), which is new. The π–π interactions between Bipy, Hba<sup>−</sup> rings are presented in Fig. 3Sb and Table 3S, and form infinite chain ...–Hba–Bipy–Bipy–Hba– along *a*–*b* direction.

### 3.3. IR spectroscopy

The IR spectra of **1** and **2** are significantly different from the spectra of starting materials (Fig. 4S) and this indicates the formation of new compounds. The IR absorption spectrum of **1** (cm<sup>−1</sup>): 3396m, 3109m, 2981m, 2805m, 1671vs, 1600vs, 1496m, 1474m, 1462w, 1446s, 1394m, 1352s, 1292s, 1252w, 1205w, 1102vw, 1072vw, 1032vw, 1018vw, 845vw, 766m, 732m, 709vw, 661vw, 637vw, 539w, 513m, 418w (vs – very strong, s – strong, m – medium, w – weak, and v.w. – very weak). The IR absorption spectrum of **2** (cm<sup>−1</sup>): 3431s, 3107m, 3089m, 3050m, 3032m, 2985m, 2919m, 2811m, 1685vs, 1628s, 1610s, 1600vs, 1495m, 1472m, 1443s, 1409m, 1365m, 1298s, 1246w, 1212w, 1167w, 1157m, 1114vw, 1093vw, 1075vw, 1060w, 1024w, 1013w, 905vw, 861vw, 772s, 728m, 670vw, 658vw, 651vw, 634vw, 539m, 525m, 418w. The presence of Hba<sup>−</sup> ion in compounds is confirmed by very strong bands at 1671 and 1685 cm<sup>−1</sup> in IR spectra of **1** and **2** (Fig. 4S, curve 3 and 4) respectively assigned to the stretching mode of CO

in Hba<sup>-</sup> ion [25, 33]. An intense band at 1600 cm<sup>-1</sup> in IR spectra of **1-2** is attributed to the  $\nu(\text{CC})/\nu(\text{CN})$  stretching modes of the pyridil ring [34]. A broad band in IR spectra of **1** centered at 3396 cm<sup>-1</sup> is assigned to the  $\nu(\text{OH})$  vibrations of  $\mu_2$ -hydroxo groups and water molecules. A broad band centered at 3431 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **2** is assigned to the  $\nu(\text{OH})$  vibrations of coordinated and uncoordinated water molecules.

### 3.4. Thermal decomposition

Thermal decomposition of compounds **1** and **2** started with the release of water molecules. The water removal was confirmed by the IR spectroscopic analysis of released gases. The DSC and TG curves of **1** show two-step dehydration (Fig. 5S) which is accompanied by two endo effects at 111.1 °C and 131.1 °C. An experimental weight loss ( $\Delta m$ ) of 9.1% are observed between 65 and 150 °C, which corresponds to the release of the coordinated and uncoordinated water molecules ( $-4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\Delta m_{\text{theor}} = 9.0\%$ ). A weak interaction between the Cu(II) and the axial H<sub>2</sub>O molecule is supported by the long bond lengths of Cu–O<sub>w</sub> (2.356(2) and 2.4665 (2) Å). The weight of sample remains unchanged up to ~175 °C, and there are no peaks in the DSC curve below this temperature. Compound **1** melts with the decomposition at  $T > 175$  °C. These processes are accompanied by a weak endo effect at 206.7 °C and a strong exo effect at 248.8 °C. According to the IR spectroscopic analysis of the gases evolved at  $T > 175$  °C, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O and NO are formed. Both the DSC and TG curves of **2** show one-step dehydration at 75–150 °C (Fig. 6S) which is accompanied by endo effect at 130.3 °C. The dehydration step resulted in a 12.0% weight loss corresponding to the release of three water molecules per formula unit ( $-3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\Delta m_{\text{theor}} = 11.9\%$ ). This corresponds to removal of both the coordinated and uncoordinated water molecules, suggesting a weak Cu–OH<sub>2</sub> bond. Breakdown of the organic components was initiated at ~220 °C and occurs in several steps. These processes are accompanied by a weak endo effect at ~260 °C and a strong exo effect at ~335 °C. The gases evolved at  $T > 220$  °C, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O and NO are formed.

## 4. Conclusions

This work is part of our continuing efforts to study metal barbiturate chemistry from a synthetic and structural point of view [5, 8, 9]. Two novel mixed-ligand Cu(II) complexes containing the 2,2'-bipyridine and barbiturate ion are synthesized and characterized by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. The dinuclear compound **1** and mononuclear complex **2** crystallize in the space groups  $P2_1/c$  and  $C2/c$ , respectively. Each copper(II) ion is penta-coordinated having distorted square pyramidal geometry. In **1**, the equatorial sites are occupied by two N atoms of one Bipy ligand and two O atoms of different  $\mu_2$ -OH groups and the apical position by one aqua



ligand. This forms a cationic dimer where two uncoordinated barbiturate ligands serve to balance the electrical charge. It is the first of structurally characterized compounds containing a symmetric  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{Bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\mu_2\text{-OH})_2]^{2+}$  cation. An outstanding feature of **1** is the short Cu...Cu distance (2.8644 (5) Å). The equatorial sites in **2** are occupied by two N atoms of Bipy ligand, one O atom of  $\text{Htba}^-$  ion, one  $\text{Cl}^-$  ion and the apical position by one aqua ligand. As usual, the axial Cu–O distances in **1-2** are longer than equatorial ones. The structures of **1-2** are stabilized by the numerous intermolecular hydrogen bonds.  $\text{Hba}^-$  ions form the infinite chains by N–H...O intermolecular hydrogen bonds (based on the  $\text{R}_2^2(8)$  pattern) (Fig. 2a,b). In **1**, the  $\mu_2$ -hydroxo groups and uncoordinated  $\text{Hba}^-$  ions are bound by O–H...O<sub>Hba</sub> intermolecular hydrogen bonds (Fig. 2S) forming the infinite chain based on the  $\text{C}_2^2(10)$  pattern. Results of topological analysis [31] demonstrate that these structures are new 3D networks. The  $\pi$ – $\pi$  interactions between Bipy,  $\text{Hba}^-$  rings form infinite chain ...– $\text{Hba}$ –Bipy–Bipy– $\text{Hba}$ –... (Fig. 3S). Thermal decomposition of **1** and **2** includes dehydration, which mainly ends at 150 °C, and an organic ligand oxidation above 170 and 220 °C, respectively, with a release of  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and NO.

### Supplementary data

The crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structural analysis have been deposited with Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre ((**1**) - CCDC # 1843895; (**2**) - CCDC # 1843896). The information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44(1223)336-033, E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or www: www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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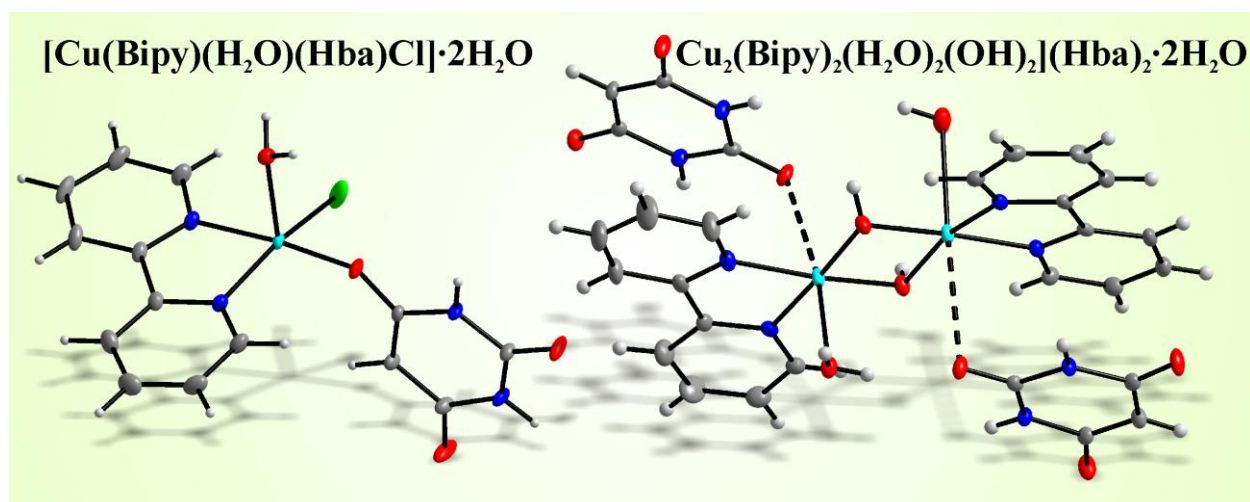
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### Graphical Abstract

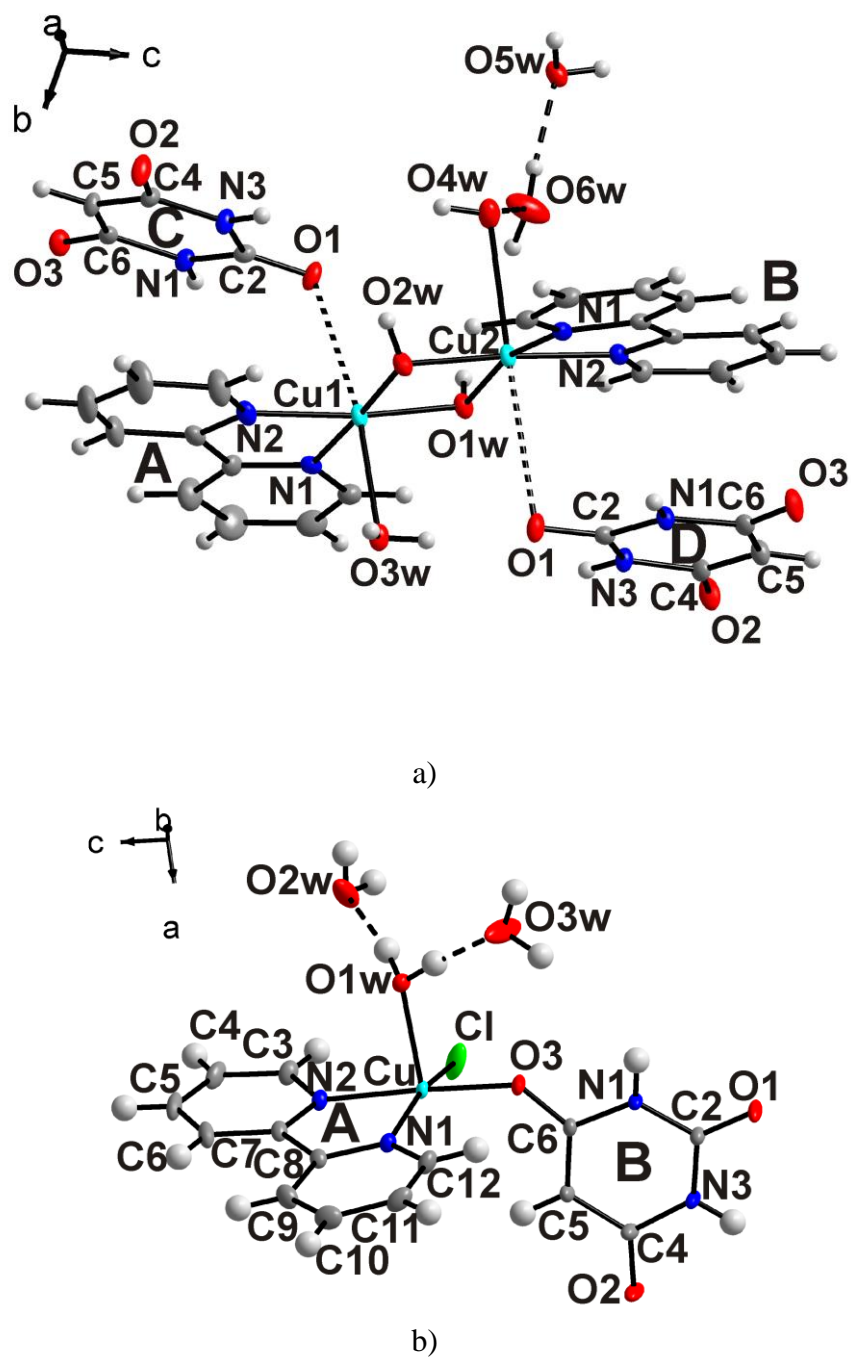


**Table 1.** Crystal structure parameters of **1** and **2**

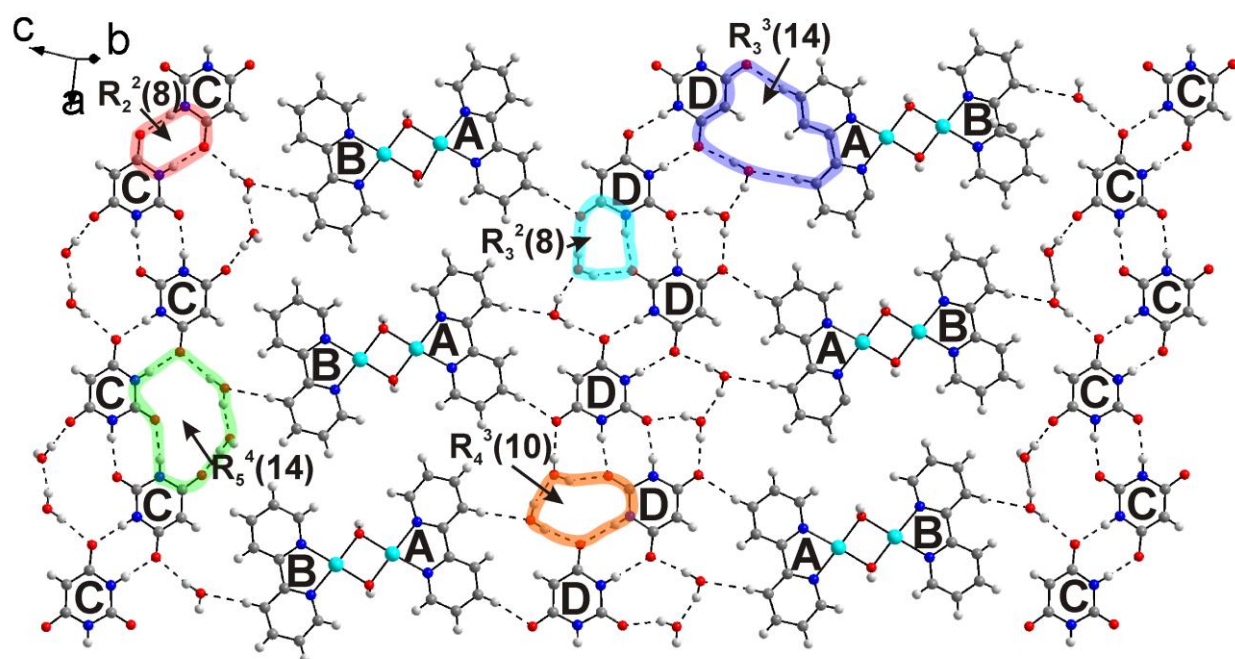
Single crystal	[Cu <sub>2</sub> (Bipy) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> ](Hba) <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O ( <b>1</b> )	[Cu(Bipy)(H <sub>2</sub> O)(Hba)Cl]·2H <sub>2</sub> O ( <b>2</b> )
Moiety formula	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>32</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>17</sub> ClCuN <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
Dimension (mm)	0.20×0.13×0.03	0.50×0.24×0.23
Color	blue	Green
Molecular weight	799.7	436.30
Temperature (K)	100	100
Space group, <i>Z</i>	<i>P</i> -1, 2	<i>C</i> 2/ <i>c</i> , 8
<i>a</i> (Å)	10.2829 (9)	13.5370 (4)
<i>b</i> (Å)	10.845 (1)	14.7055 (4)
<i>c</i> (Å)	14.977 (1)	17.2223 (5)
$\alpha$ (°)	104.661 (3)	90
$\beta$ (°)	96.537 (3)	94.966 (1)
$\gamma$ (°)	93.041 (3)	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1599.5 (2)	3415.6 (2)
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.660	1.697
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.407	1.476
Reflections measured	69992	48742
Reflections independent	9360	5004
Reflections with <i>F</i> > 4 $\sigma$ ( <i>F</i> )	5709	4548
2 $\theta_{\text{max}}$ (°)	60.10	60.13
<i>h, k, l</i> - limits	-14 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 14; -15 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 15; -21 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 21	-19 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 19; -20 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 20; -20 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 24
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.1191	0.0343
The weighed refinement of <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2)+(0.0281P)^2+1.9182P]$	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2)+(0.027P)^2+6.62P]$
Number of refinement parameters	481	253
<i>R</i> 1 [ <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> > 4 $\sigma$ ( <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> )]	0.0506	0.0291
<i>wR</i> 2	0.0801	0.0691
<i>Goof</i>	1.009	1.096
$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ (e/Å <sup>3</sup> )	0.490	0.579
$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}$ (e/Å <sup>3</sup> )	-0.722	-0.488
( $\Delta/\sigma$ ) <sub>max</sub>	0.001	0.001

**Table 2.** Hydrogen-bond geometry in **1** and **2** structures (Å, °).

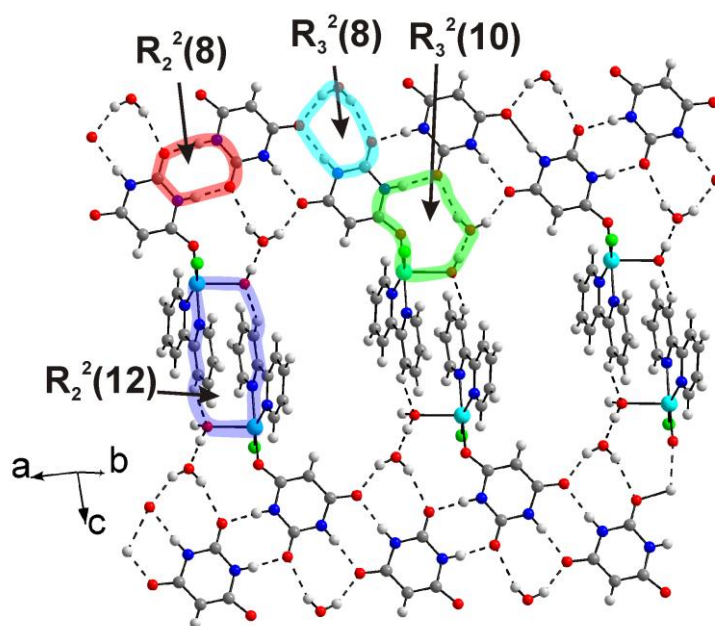
D—H	d(D—H)	d(H···A)	∠ D—H···A	D···A	A	Transformation for A atom
[Cu <sub>2</sub> (Bipy) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> ](Hba) <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O ( <b>1</b> )						
O1w—H1wA	0.79(3)	2.09(3)	177(3)	2.887(3)	O2C	1−x, 1−y, −z
N1C—H1C	0.86	2.00	167	2.848(3)	O1C	−x, 1−y, −z
N1D—H1D	0.86	2.00	165	2.842(3)	O1D	1−x, 2−y, 1−z
O2w—H2wA	0.86(3)	2.07(3)	160(3)	2.889(3)	O3C	−x, 1−y, −z
O3w—H3wA	0.82(3)	1.98(3)	154(3)	2.737(3)	O1D	x, y, z
N3C—H3C	0.86	1.91	176	2.767(3)	O2C	1−x, 1−y, −z
N3D—H3D	0.86	2.04	160	2.863(3)	O2D	−x, 2−y, 1−z
O3w—H3wB	0.81(2)	1.92(2)	177(3)	2.724(3)	O3D	1−x, 2−y, 1−z
O4w—H4wA	0.87(3)	2.02(3)	166(3)	2.864(3)	O2C	1−x, 1−y, −z
O4w—H4wB	0.86(2)	1.86(2)	165(3)	2.698(3)	O6w	x, y, z
O5w—H5wA	0.88(2)	1.93(3)	160(3)	2.765(3)	O3w	x, −1+y, z
O5w—H5wB	0.84(3)	1.94(3)	172(3)	2.774(3)	O2D	−x, 1−y, 1−z
O6w—H6wA	0.86(3)	1.89(3)	171(3)	2.738(3)	O3C	−x, 1−y, −z
O6w—H6wB	0.85(3)	1.90(3)	173(3)	2.742(3)	O5w	x, y, z
C5A—H5A	0.93	2.35	151	3.196(4)	O3D	x, y, −1+z
C9A—H9A	0.93	2.52	173	3.444(4)	O5w	−x, 1−y, −z
C9B—H9B	0.93	2.50	157	3.376(4)	O4w	1−x, 1−y, 1−z
[Cu(Bipy)(H <sub>2</sub> O)(Hba)Cl]·2H <sub>2</sub> O ( <b>2</b> )						
N(1B)—H(1B)	0.88	1.89	168	2.759(2)	O(1B)	3/2−x, 1/2−y, −z
N(3B)—H(3B)	0.88	1.93	174	2.803(2)	O(2B)	2−x, −y, −z
O(1w)—H(11w)	0.89(1)	1.89(2)	170(2)	2.762(2)	O(2w)	x, y, z
O(1w)—H(12w)	0.89(2)	1.83(2)	174(2)	2.714(2)	O(3w)	x, y, z
O(2w)—H(21w)	0.88(2)	2.48(3)	122(2)	3.033(2)	O(3B)	1−x, y, 1/2−z
O(2w)—H(22w)	0.88(2)	2.34(2)	178(2)	3.222(2)	Cl	1−x, y, 1/2−z
O(3w)—H(31w)	0.89(3)	1.95(3)	155(3)	2.781(3)	O(2B)	−1/2+x, 1/2+y, z
O(3w)—H(32w)	0.89(3)	2.15(3)	149(2)	2.955(2)	O(1B)	3/2−x, 1/2−y, −z
C(6A)—H(6A)	0.95	2.36	155	3.243(2)	O(1w)	3/2−x, 1/2−y, 1−z
C(5A)—H(5A)	0.95	2.64	157	3.528(2)	Cl	x, −y, 1/2−z



**Figure 1.** The asymmetric unit of the **1** (a), **2** (b) unit cell. Symmetry independent, different molecules are marked by A, B, C, D labels. Some most important atoms in the asymmetric unit are labeled. The intermolecular hydrogen bonds are represented by dashed lines. The ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level, except for the hydrogen atoms represented by spheres.



a)



b)

**Figure 2.** Hydrogen bonding in **1** (a) and **2** (b). The H-bonds are marked by dashed lines, the H-bond motifs are marked by circles. Different ions/molecules are marked by A, B, C, D labels.